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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/705,862	11/13/2003	Kiyoji Aoshima	2003_1633A	6306

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EXAMINER

WOLFE, DEBRA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3725

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/705,862	Applicant(s) AOSHIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Debra Wolfe	Art Unit 3725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on November 11, 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |



DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because it contains numerous informalities; the following informalities are a few found through out the disclosure:

1. Page 1, paragraph 2, line 6 add "and" between "known" and "described"
2. Page 2, line 23 the sentence "Besides, a press production ... the real production" is awkward; it is suggested to rewrite the sentence.
3. Page 3, line 1 add "the" between "is" and "same"
4. Page 5, line 20 remove "the" from between "to" and "each".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 7 and 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 7 states "the load supporting device according to Claim 6 is disposed in two or more on one surface of the die cushion pad..." it is unclear what the applicant is claiming in reference to this statement of the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:



A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Randolph, Sr. (U.S. Patent # 3,942,354). Randolph, Sr. discloses a press machine (die unit) with quick-change features having cushion pins (pressure pins 126) that hold a work (W) by their top ends through a blank holder (plate 128) and their bottom ends are disposed on a die cushion (pressure cell 80), that applies equal axially transmitted pressures to the individual cushion pins (pressure pins 126) (See FIG 1), through a die cushion pad (plate 79), and extend through a bolster plate (plate 106). Randolph, Sr. also discloses an elastic member (compression spring 100) that apply a bias to urge the die cushion pad (plate 79) into engagement with the under surface of the carrier plate (78) (See col. 4, line 64) therefore producing a pushing force in an axial direction to enable to hold the work (W). It is apparent that the apparatus disclosed by Randolph, Sr. is capable of performing press work by equalizing axially transmitted pressure (See FIG 1) of plural cushion pins (pressure pins 126) by contraction of an elastic member (compression springs 100) which are provided for each of the cushion pins (pressure pins 126).
2. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Randolph, Sr. (U.S. Patent # 3,942,354). Randolph, Sr. discloses a die unit with quick change features comprising a wear plate (88) having a supporting section (studs 82) with an elastic member (compression spring 100) and is capable of supporting a load applied from one direction by the supporting section. (See FIG 1)
3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Randolph, Sr. U.S. Patent # 3,942,354). Randolph, Sr. discloses a die unit with quick change features having a load



supporting device (pressure cell 80) that is disposed on one surface of a die cushion pad (plate 79) and is capable of supporting a load applied from a direction opposite to the surface through the use of a supporting section (studs 82) and an elastic member (compression springs 100). (See FIG 1)

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. U.S Patent # 6,520,075 B1 to Shinoda et al. teaches the use of placing springs within push pins in a press machine.
2. U.S. Patent # 1,827,440 to Rode

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Debra Wolfe whose telephone number is (571) 272-1904. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Thursday 6am - 3:30pm with alternating Fridays 6am -2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached at (571) 272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.




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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Debra Wolfe
Examiner
Art Unit 3725


DEBRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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